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Urban District of Horbury

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TOGETHER WITH THE

REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR, 1938.



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Urban District Council of Horbury

Chairman of the Council :
Councillor HERBERT ROWLEY

Vice-Chairman :
Councillor W. W. HARTLEY, J.P.

Members :
Councillor G. H. AUDSLEY.
Councillor F. J. BAINES.
Councillor H. V. BENNETT.
Councillor H. S. CROOKE.
Councillor W. W. HARTLEY, J.P.
Councillor G. MARSDEN.
Councillor H. ROWLEY.
Councillor G. SENIOR.
Councillor Rev. G. M. SHAW.
Councillor W. TETLEY.
Councillor F. WILSON.

Representative on the Wakefield and District
Small-pox Isolation Hospital Committee :
Councillor G. MARSDEN.

Medical Officer of Health and Superintendent
of the Isolation Hospital :
HUGH L. NEIL, M.B., Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector and Superintendent of Scavenging :
JOHN H. HORSFALL, C.R.S.I.

Matron, Addington Isolation Hospital :
Miss I. L. BALFOUR.

Health Visitor and School Nurse :
Miss C. BAMFORD.

District Nurse : Miss A. R. STREET.

Statistical Summary.

Situation : 52.2 N. Longitude 1.2 W.

Elevation : 89—275 feet.

Area of District : 1,280 acres.

Population : 7,653.

Number of Inhabited Houses : 2,425.

Rateable Value of General Rate : £34,544.

Sum Represented by a Penny Rate : £143 18s. 8d.

Birth-rate : 14.7 per 1000 of the population.

Death-rate (uncorrected) : 8.9 per 1000 of the population.

Death-rate (corrected) : 12.1 per 1000 of the population.

Infantile Death-rate : 61.9 per 1000 Births registered.

Zymotic Death-rate : 0.13 per 1000 of the population.

Death-rate from Tubercular Diseases : 0.13 per 1000
of the population.

Rain-fall, 1938 : 29.31 inches.

Urban Council of Horbury

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1938

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT on the health and sanitary conditions of the district for the year 1938.

The Urban District of Horbury is a compact area of 1,280 acres situated on the left bank of the River Calder, some three miles above Wakefield. The maximum elevation is 275 feet and the minimum 89 feet, O.D.

The district is bounded on the north-west by the borough of Ossett, and elsewhere is surrounded by the County Borough of Wakefield and the Wakefield Rural District. The Wakefield and Huddersfield main road traverses Horbury from East to West. The West Riding Automobile Company and the Yorkshire Bus Company run good services of Motor Buses through the town from Leeds, Wakefield, Bradford, Huddersfield, Dewsbury and Ossett, etc.

The London, Midland and Scottish Railway has two Stations in the Urban District, and it is here that the Barnsley branch joins the main line. Water traffic is carried on by means of the Calder and Hebble Navigation whose Canal passes through the district.

POPULATION.

The population of the district as returned by the Census of 1931 was 7791. The Registrar-General's estimate of the population at the end of 1938 was 7,653.

The number of inhabited houses at the Census of 1931 was 2,105, while the number of inhabited houses at the end of 1938 was 2,425.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

There may be said to be three principal aggregations of the population, although these are now practically contiguous, viz :— (1) The central and older portion of Horbury, pleasantly situated on the crest of the hill and extending on the slope on the south-east to (2) Horbury Junction with its large Railway Wagon Works and its growing artisan population, (3) on the slope of the hill to to the south-west of Horbury there is a bold escarpment, at the foot of which is Horbury Bridge, and here are situated the Woollen Mills, Oil Works, Dye-Works, and the large Athletic and Sports Goods Factory.

The district overlies the middle coal measures, consisting of shale, sandstone, etc., and in this locality there is the northern extension of the Barnsley Coal Bed. Near the river and in the valley bottom the soil is alluvial, and in other or higher parts the soil is generally clay or marl.

Horbury is primarily an industrial district, the chief industries being :—Woollen and Worsted Manufacturing, Railway Wagon and Motor Body Building, Oil Works, Dyeing, Coal Cutting and other Mining Machinery and the manufacture of Athletic and Sports Requisites, while a fair proportion of the male population find employment in the coal mines in the adjacent districts.

Trade generally in the district has during the year been fairly good, the industries being all practically employed full time, therefore the amount of unemployment among the inhabitants has not been abnormal.

The social and general conditions of the inhabitants of the district are fairly satisfactory.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1938.

Live Births—				Total		M		F
Legitimate	...	...	...	108	...	54	...	54
Illegitimate	...	...	...	5	...	2	...	3
Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population, 14.7.								
Stillbirths	...	...	...	8	...	3	...	5
Rate per 1000 total (live and still Births)						1.04.		
Deaths	...	...	...	93	...	53	...	40
Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population, 12.1.								

					Rate per 1000 total (live and still)	
Deaths from Puerperal causes—					Deaths	births
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	0	0
Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	0	0

DEATH-RATE OF INFANTS
UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE :—

per 1000 Births
registered

All Infants per 1000 live Births :—

Legitimate Infants per 1000 live Births	...	...	...	61.9
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 live Births	...	...	...	0.0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	17
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	0

BIRTHS.

The total number of Births registered in the district during 1938 was 113 (56 males and 57 females) which gives an ANNUAL BIRTH-RATE of 14.7 per 1000 of the population.

The number of illegitimate births was 5 giving a rate of 0.66 per 1000 of the population.

The number of still-births was 8 giving a rate of 1.04 per 1000 of the population.

The following are the birth rates for the whole country per 1000 of the population :—

England and Wales :—

Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	15.1
Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	0.6

126 County Boroughs and Great Towns,
including London

Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	15.0
Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	.65

148 Smaller Towns (estimated population
25,000 to 50,000 at Census, 1931)—

Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	15.4
Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	.60

London—

Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	13.4
Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	.48

DEATHS.

The total number of Deaths registered in the district during 1938 was 69 (35 males and 34 females) which is equivalent to an ANNUAL DEATH-RATE (uncorrected) of 8.9 per 1000 of the population.

The number of transferable deaths of Horbury residents in Institutions, etc., in other districts was 26 (19 males and 7 females), while the number of deaths of persons in Horbury transferable away to other districts was 2 (1 male and 1 female).

This brings the total number of Deaths of Horbury residents during 1938 to 93 (53 males and 40 females) which calculated on the estimated population of 7653 gives a CORRECTED ANNUAL DEATH-RATE of 12.1 per 1000 of the population.

The causes of Death will be found in Table II.

The Death Rates for the whole country per 1000 of the population are :—

England and Wales	...	...	11.6 per 1000 of the population	
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	...	11.7		Do.
148 Smaller Towns (estimated population 25,000 to 50,000 at Census, 1931)	...	...	11.0	Do.
London	...	...	...	11.4 Do.

The Deaths of Horbury residents outside the district occurred at :—

Clayton Hospital, Wakefield
 Leeds General Infirmary
 Manygates Maternity Home
 County Hospital, Wakefield
 Staincliffe County Hospital
 Rothwell Isolation Hospital
 Salford
 Mental Hospital, Wakefield
 Nursing Homes and Private Residences.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of Deaths registered under 1 year of age was 7 (6 males and 1 female). This gives an INFANTILE DEATH-RATE of 61.9 per 1000 Births registered.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Hugh L. Neil, M.B., Ch.B.	Medical Officer of Health and Superintendent of the Isolation Hospital (part time).
John H. Horsfall, Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute for Sanitary Inspectors. Diploma Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods. Public Analyst, Veterinary Inspectors, Health Visitors, Midwives, etc.	Sanitary Inspector ; Inspector of Housing; Meat and Other Foods; Dairies and Cowsheds ; Factory and Workshops ; Shops ; Petroleum, etc. ; Superintendent of Scavenging. Under the control and direction of the West Riding County Council.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The services rendered by the staff of the County Laboratory at Wakefield in the examination of Sputums, Swabs, etc., together with the bacteriological examination and analysis of Milk, Water, etc., is greatly valued and appreciated, and credit is due to them for the expedient manner in which the specimens and samples sent are dealt with.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) Infectious Diseases.

The Urban District Council have a Horse Ambulance which is used only for the removal of ordinary infectious diseases notified in the district, to the Council's Isolation Hospital at Addington.

The Wakefield and District Joint Small-pox Hospital Committee provide a suitable Motor Ambulance for the removal of cases of Small-pox.

(b) General.

The Urban District Council are the owners of a 25 h.p. Bedford De-luxe Motor Ambulance. This ambulance is used exclusively for the removal of accident, surgical and maternity cases to such institutions and places as may be necessary, no charge being made for its use to permanent residents of Horbury.

The Urban Council has by arrangement, extended the use of the ambulance to surrounding districts in the Rural area, for removing urgent cases, accident and surgical, to Hospital, etc.

During 1938 the Motor Ambulance has been called upon to make 182 journeys in conveying cases to and from various institutions, etc., viz. :—Leeds Infirmary 12, Dewsbury Infirmary 25, Wakefield Clayton Hospital and Maternity Home 97, County Hospital 22, Maternity and Nursing Homes, Leeds 13, County Hospital, Dewsbury 3, Bradford Eye and Ear Hospital 3, Barnsley Hospital 2, other institutions and places 5.

NURSING IN THE HOMES.

(c) General.

There is no Institution in the district from which the services of professional Nurses can be obtained. When such service is required, it is necessary to arrange for Nurses to be brought in from Private Nursing Homes in Leeds, Bradford or Wakefield.

A voluntary society, The Horbury District Nursing Association, upheld entirely by private subscription, works in close co operation with the Urban District Council, the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector, and private practitioners.

This association retains the whole time services of a fully-trained Queens Nurse, who will upon request, make daily visits to the homes in cases of sickness, invalidity, etc., and for the purpose of doing dressings, etc., after operations and also to attend to the general comfort of chronic cases.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

(d) VENEREAL DISEASES.

The centre for the treatment of Venereal Diseases for the area is at the Clayton Hospital, Wakefield.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Centre (consultation and treatment) is under the scheme of the West Riding County Council and is held weekly at the Wesleyan School, School Lane, Horbury.

The Local Medical Officer of Health, School Nurse and voluntary lady helpers are in attendance. The clinic is well attended by the Mothers with their babies. A most useful and far-reaching work is being done, and the clinic is greatly appreciated.

SCHOOL CLINIC.

The Medical examination and treatment, also the Dental examination and treatment of School children is carried out by the School Medical, Dental and Nursing Staff of the West Riding County Council, under the direction of the County Medical Officer of Health.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The treatment of Tuberculosis is carried out by the Medical Staff of the West Riding County Council, the centre for this district being the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Wakefield.

The following particulars relate to the Hospital accommodation which is available to the inhabitants of the district :—

(1) INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The Addington Isolation Hospital, at Addington, Horbury, used only for the treatment of cases of Infectious Disease in the Urban District of Horbury.

26 Beds : 3 diseases, viz. :—

Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Typhoid Fever can be treated concurrently.

Owned and supported wholly by the Horbury Urban District Council.

(2) SMALL-POX.

The Carr Gate Isolation Hospital, Wakefield, and other Institutions by arrangement of the West Riding County Council.

The Wakefield and District Small-pox Joint Hospital Committee.

(3) TUBERCULOSIS.

Cardigan Sanatorium, near Wakefield.

West Riding County Council.

Crookhill Hall Hospital, near Maltby.

Do.

Eldwick Sanatorium, near Bingley.

Do.

Mitchell Memorial Home, Rawdon.

Do.

Morton Banks Sanatorium, near Bingley.

Do.

Dean Head Sanatorium, near Horsforth.

Do.

(4) CHILDREN.

The Children's Hospital, Bradford.

Upheld by Private Donations.

(5) GENERAL.

The General Infirmary, Leeds	Upheld by Private Donations.
The Royal Infirmary, Bradford	Do.
The Eye and Ear Hospital, Bradford.	Do.
Dewsbury and District General Infirmary, Dewsbury.	Do.
The Clayton Hospital, Wake- field.	Do.
The County Hospital, Wake- field.	West Riding County Council.

Every facility is offered by the above Institutions to the inhabitants of the district, which is of inestimable benefit to our residents, and as such are greatly appreciated.

There is no Institutional provision available to the district (other than the Public Assistance Hospitals) providing for unmarried Mothers, illegitimate and homeless children.

MORTUARY.

A modern and fully equipped Mortuary is provided and maintained by the Urban Council upon their premises at the rear of the Town Hall.

The Council by arrangement permit the use of the Mortuary by districts in the Rural area for the purpose of Post-mortem examinations, etc.

WATER SUPPLY.

The district is well served with a supply of good water which is obtained from the Dewsbury, Batley and Wakefield Corporations. The supply taken from Dewsbury and Batley is stored in a service reservoir at Foxroyd, Thornhill, from which service mains serve the central portions of Horbury and the Horbury Bridge district, while the Horbury Junction and Benton Hill parts of the district are supplied direct from the mains of the Wakefield Corporation. A constant supply is available to all houses and premises in the district.

The supply from both sources is quite satisfactory both in quality and quantity, and is controlled by bacteriological examination and chemical analysis monthly, the results of which have been quite satisfactory.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The sewerage and drainage of the Urban District is generally satisfactory. The sewerage of the district is collected by the system laid down in 1892-1894, which was further extensively enlarged in 1913, and discharges at the outfall works on the banks of the River Calder at Horbury Junction, being collected in two parts, viz., that from the Eastern portion of the district flowing by gravitation to the precipitation tanks, while that from the Western part flows to a large tank sewer near the works and thence to the sewage well from which it is pumped to the equalising tanks, then to the precipitation tanks, forward on to the sprinklers and humas tanks and finally discharges into the river.

In 1934 the works were further enlarged by the erection of two new percolating filters, each 110 feet in diameter, the abolition of the old steam plant and the installation of electrically driven unchokeable pumps, automatically controlled. By this arrangement the treatment of sewage is effected over the 24 hours instead of 16 hours as was the case with the old steam plant.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The law relating to the prevention of the pollution of Rivers and Streams in the Urban Area, is administered by the West Riding of Yorkshire Rivers Board.

SCHOOLS.

The elementary Day Schools serving the district, 3 in number are Northfield Lane Council School (Boys, Girls and Infants), St. Peter's Church School (Boys, Girls and Infants), St. John's Church School, Horbury Bridge (Mixed and Infants). All the schools are provided with a good supply of water, and suitable washing accommodation is provided. All the sanitary conveniences in connection with the schools are on the water carriage system.

The children attending the Day Schools are periodically examined by the County Medical and Dental Inspectors and School Nurses appointed for that purpose.

Full particulars and details relating to closet accommodation, scavenging of the district, inspection of districts for nuisances and defects, food inspection, etc., and the work carried out in connection therewith will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector appended.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

The number of Inhabited houses in the district as returned by the census of 1931 was 2,105. The approximate number of inhabited houses in district at the end of 1938 was 2,425.

During 1938, 62 new houses have been completed and occupied, 46 by private enterprise and 16 by the Urban District Council. therewith will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1.	(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	43
		(b)	Number of inspections made for that purpose	43
	(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	43
		(b)	Number of inspections made for that purpose	43
	(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	13
	(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	30
2.			Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	0
3.	(a)		Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
		(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	30
		(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	12
		(a)	By Owners	12
		(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	0
	(b)		Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
		(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	0
		(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	0
		(a)	By Owners	0
		(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	0

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—		
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	13
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in Pursuance of Demolition Orders	... ..	18
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—		
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	... ..	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	... ..	0
4.	Housing Act, 1936—Part IV. Overcrowding.	
(a)	(i) Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of year	... .. 12
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	... .. 12
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	... .. 81
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	... .. 0
(c)	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	... .. 20
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	... .. 106
(d)	We have had no cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after steps have been taken for the abatement of overcrowding.	
(e)	The remaining cases of overcrowding are being dealt with and steadily reduced.	

The particulars set out in the foregoing summary relate only to defective conditions found in the course of house-to-house inspection of dwellings under the Housing Act, 1936. Full details of inspection of district, etc., together with nuisances and defects found are set out in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The number of cases of Infectious Disease notified during 1938 was 68, viz. :—Scarlet Fever 42, Diphtheria 5, Pneumonia 13, Puerperal Pyrexia 1, Erysipelas 3, Pulmonary and other Tubercular diseases 4.

41 cases of Scarlet Fever and 5 cases of Diphtheria were removed to the Council's Isolation Hospital for treatment.

When cases of Infectious Disease are notified, the dwellings are visited and necessary inquiries made. Defects, dilapidations and the general sanitary conditions are noted, and steps taken to have the same remedied. When complete isolation cannot be maintained at the home the patients are removed to the Council's Isolation Hospital at Addington for treatment, while the premises, clothing, etc., are immediately fumigated with formic aldehyde vapour. Children from the infected houses are prohibited from attending Day or Sunday School and places of public entertainment for a period of 12 days from the time of fumigation of the premises.

Where cases are permitted to be nursed in the homes of patients, complete isolation is insisted upon, and advice offered as to the precautions that are to be taken.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1938.

			Total cases Notified		Cases admitted to Hospital		Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	...	42	...	41	...	0
Diphtheria	...	...	5	...	5	...	0
Pneumonia	...	...	13	...	0	...	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	1	...	0	...	0
Erysipelas	...	...	3	...	0	...	0

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases notified and Mortality from Tuberculosis during 1938.

Age Period	New Cases Notified.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 years	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
15 years	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
25 years	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35 years	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
45 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 years								
and upwards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	1

From the foregoing table it will be seen that the total Deaths from tubercular diseases during 1938 was one, which is 1.07 per cent. of the total deaths registered from all causes, and giving a Tubercular Death-rate of .13 per 1,000 of the population.

The provisions of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations with respect to the notification of new cases has been satisfactorily complied with during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS, 1925.

There are no known cases in the district of persons suffering from Tuberculosis being engaged in the production, distribution or handling of Milk.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS, 1925-1936.

On no occasion has it been found necessary for action to be taken regarding the removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis, as per Sections 62 and 172 of the above Acts.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken during the year under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, and Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the prevention of Blindness, or the treatment of persons suffering from disease or injury to the eyes.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

As the official responsible for the carrying out of the many and varied duties coming under this head the Sanitary Inspector deals, in his report which is appended, with the more important branches of the work, such as the inspection of meat and other foods, the supervision and inspection of dairies, Cow-sheds and Milk supply, slaughter-houses, abatement of nuisances, Housing Inspections, and re-conditioning, general observations on Housing conditions, removal and disposal of house refuse, etc.

In conclusion I desire to express thanks to the Inspector for his willing co-operation and assistance during the year, and also for the competent and diligent manner in which the work of the department has been carried out by the Inspector and his staff.

I express my appreciation and thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the courtesy and consideration shown to me and for their loyal support during the year under review.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. L. NEIL,

Public Health Department,
Town Hall, Horbury.

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.
AGES AT DEATH DURING 1938.

		All Ages	Males	Females
Under 1 year	...	7	6	1
1 to 2 years	...	1	1	0
2 to 5 years	...	1	0	1
15 to 25 years	...	0	0	0
5 to 15 years	...	4	3	1
25 to 45 years	...	6	3	3
45 to 65 years	...	31	16	15
65 years and upwards		43	24	19
Totals		93	53	40

TABLE II.

Causes of Death						Males	Females
All Causes	...	...	...	...	...	53	40
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	8	9
Other Tuberculosis			...	...	...	0	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Pneumonia (all forms)			...	...	...	1	0
Other Respiratory Diseases			...	...	...	1	0
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	2	0
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	15	16
Other Circulatory Diseases			...	...	...	3	4
Cerebral Haemorrhage			...	...	...	3	2
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	0	1
Other Violence	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Other Defined Diseases			...	...	...	4	4
Senility	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, etc.						5	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis			...	...	...	2	0
Other Liver Diseases			...	...	...	1	0
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :—							
Total	...	...	...	...	...	6	1
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	6	1
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Live Births—							
Total	...	...	...	...	...	56	57
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	54	54
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Still Births—							
Total	...	...	...	...	...	3	5
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	3	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	0	0

TABLE III.
INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING 1938.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various stages
under 1 Year of Age.

Causes of Death	1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year of age
Atelectasis ...	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Broncho-pneumonia	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Congenital cardiac abnormality ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Prematurity ...	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Totals	6	0	0	1	0	0	7

Urban District of Horbury

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the Year 1938

JOHN H. HORSFALL, C. R. S. I.,

Sanitary Inspector and Superintendent of Scavenging

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.
for the year ending December 31st, 1938.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND
MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT upon the work carried out by the department under my control during the year 1938.

The report gives in detail the varied and numerous duties performed by the Sanitary Staff, and the activity displayed in dealing with conditions and other influences likely to be prejudicial to the public health and well-being of our people, including the careful inspection and strict supervision of the Meat and other food supplies, which is essential if the residents of the district are to be assured of a pure and wholesome food supply.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTORIAL WORK.

During the year 1082 visits and inspections have been made to various premises for the investigation of complaints, the suppression of nuisances and defects, and the inspection of works in progress necessary to remedy the same.

During the latter part of the year a large amount of my time was devoted to Air Raid Precautions administration, particularly so during the period of national crisis.

372 letters and other communications have been sent out from the department during the year ; 33 statutory notices and 53 informal notices were served upon owners and occupiers of premises calling for the abatement of nuisances and defects, etc., while in numerous other cases defects, etc., were remedied by my calling upon owners and occupiers personally, and bringing the defects to their notice.

Number of Nuisances and Defects on the Books at the end of 1937	...	...	...	...	...	89
Number of Nuisances and Defects reported during 1938	...	...	...	...	...	149
						<hr/> 238
Number of Nuisances and Defects remedied during 1938	...	...	...	...	...	213
						<hr/> 25
Number of Nuisances and Defects on the Books at the end of 1938	...	...	...	...	...

The following summary gives the nature and amount of work executed in the abatement of nuisances and defects, etc. during the year :—

Choked Drains cleared	...	...	...	...	23
Drains amended and reconstructed	...	...	...	...	8
Subsoil Water drained from cellars	...	...	...	...	1
New Sinks provided in lieu of stone sinks abolished	...	...	...	...	18
Sink waste pipes trapped off	...	...	...	...	17
Water Closets Pedestals renewed	...	...	...	...	2
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	7
House Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Living room floors re-laid	...	...	...	...	12
Dampness excluded from floors and walls	...	...	...	...	9
Ventilation of Bedrooms and living rooms improved	...	...	...	...	42
Additional Light provided to bedrooms and living rooms	...	...	...	...	42
General and miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	...	24
Additional Water Closets provided	...	...	...	...	8
Middens abolished	...	...	...	...	3
Keeping of Animals prohibited	...	...	...	...	1
Foul Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	4
Dust Bins renewed	...	...	...	...	46
Verminous premises disinfested	...	...	...	...	6
Derelict unused premises abolished	...	...	...	...	2

CONVERSION OF PRIVY MIDDENS.

Practically the whole district has now been converted to the water carriage system, the small number of 21 privies and 16 pail closets remaining are at present inconvertible owing to the fact that they are situate on outlying parts of the district and no sufficient sewer being available.

The following summary gives the number of water closets, etc., provided in lieu of privy middens abolished from 1920 to 1938.

No. of Houses	No. of W.C.s provided	Dust Bins provided	Privies abolished	Middens abolished
652	491	504	470	253

The total number of water closets in use in the district is 2216.

SCAVENGING.

The collection and disposal of House and Trade Refuse is under the control of the Sanitary Department, and is carried out under my direction and supervision, by the Council's own vehicles and employees.

The collection and transport of refuse to the place of disposal is carried out by Two Motor Waggon (each 30 cwts. capacity), one of which deals entirely with the clearing of Dust Bins, while the other clears Dry Ashpits, privies, pail closets, cesspools and trade refuse.

In addition to cleansing work the Waggon have, during the year been engaged upon transport work for other departments of the Council for 213 hours. This additional work was carried out without impairing in any way the efficiency of the cleansing work, and bringing about a saving of £45 5s. 3d. in hired team labour.

The approximate number of receptacles cleansed by the department is 1947 Dust Bins, 49 Dry Ashes Places, 21 privies and pail closets and 5 cesspools. Dust Bins are cleared weekly, cesspools fortnightly and trade refuse, privies and pail closets weekly.

The total quantity of refuse collected and disposed of by the Cleansing staff during 1938 amounted to 3,329 loads, taken from 102,588 Dust Bins, 818 Ashpits, 1176 privies, and 42 cesspools.

The loads collected and disposed of were made up as follows :
Dust Bins 2406 loads, ashpits and privies 399 loads, cesspools 145 loads and trade refuse 379 loads.

The above loadage was disposed of as follows :

Addingford Controlled Tip	...	...	2805 loads
Destroyed by Incinerator	...	...	379 ,,
To Land (manurial purposes)	...	...	20 ,,
Sewers	...	...	125 ,,

The nett cost incurred in the collection and disposal of refuse in the district for the Financial Year ending 31st March, 1938 was £1134 8s. 10d. (which includes (wages, tools, petrol, oils, disinfectants etc.)). During that period 3,407 loads of refuse were collected and disposed of at a cost of 6/7¼d. per load or approximately 2d. per house per week.

Having regard to the increased number of houses to be dealt with the cost per load for the collection and disposal of refuse compares very favourably with the figures for previous years, being lower than last year. The primary factor in the scavenging of a district is not however the cost per load but the efficient and regular manner in which the work is carried out. From the efficient and economic standpoint the use of motor transport still continues to be satisfactory.

The whole of the refuse of the township is disposed of by controlled tipping at Addington with the exception of a small quantity which is deposited upon farm land for manurial purposes and trade refuse which is destroyed by incinerator.

No complaints have been received of any nuisances being caused by this method of refuse disposal, which has proved to be both satisfactory and economical. Strict supervision is however essential in this method of disposal.

FACTORIES.

There are 41 Mechanical Factories and 29 Non-mechanical Factories on the Register in the district, viz. :—

MECHANICAL.

Woollen and Worsted Manufacturers	...	4
Mungo Manufacturers	... ..	2
Rag Manufacturers	... ..	1
Railway Wagon, Motor Body Builders and Repairers		3
Oil Mill	... ..	1
Dye-works	... ..	1
Athletic Goods Manufacturers	... ..	1
Joiners	... ..	5
Printers	... ..	3
Engineers	... ..	2
Builders and contractors	... ..	1
Food-preparing premises	... ..	3
Spring Makers	... ..	1
Boot Repairers	... ..	1
Leather Curriers	... ..	2
Motor Engineers	... ..	2
Bakers	... ..	2
Stone Quarry	... ..	1
Laundry	... ..	1
Lubricating Pad Works	... ..	1
Motor Cover Makers	... ..	1
Wool Cutting for Rugs	... ..	1

NON-MECHANICAL.

Athletic Goods Makers	...	...	...	...	1
Painters and Decorators		...	...	...	5
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	2
Tailors	...	...	...	...	2
Boot Repairers	...	...	...	...	2
Plumbers and Sanitary Engineers		...	...	...	3
Milliners	...	...	...	...	1
Tinsmiths	...	...	...	...	2
Bakers	...	...	...	...	3
Upholsterers	...	...	...	...	1
Rag Sorting	...	...	...	...	1
Leather Goods Workers		...	...	...	2
French Polishers		...	...	...	1
Dress Makers	...	...	...	...	1
Rug Makers	...	...	...	...	1
Joiners	...	...	...	...	1

 29

During the year 104 visits have been made to Factories, including Bakehouses, all of which have generally been found clean and the sanitary conditions satisfactory.

The following table gives a summary of inspectional work carried out during the year in connection with factories, both mechanical and non-mechanical :—

Premises	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	41	0	0
Factories without mechanical power	63	0	0
	104	0	0

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness etc.	1	1	0
Sanitary Accommodation :—			
Insufficient	0	0	0
Unsuitable or defective	0	0	0
Not separate for sexes	1	1	0

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are 7 Private Slaughterhouses on the Register in the district. 2 are Registered and 4 are Licensed in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health Acts, while 1 is Licensed for a limited period under Section 29 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890. All are kept under regular supervision, being visited weekly when slaughtering is in progress. All the premises are in a reasonable state of repair structurally, and the sanitary conditions are fairly satisfactory.

The slaughter-houses are however much too near surrounding property. They are all well conducted and maintained in as cleanly a condition as the nature of the business carried on will permit.

The walls and ceiling of the slaughter-halls and pinning sheds are cleansed and lime-washed at the specified periods, while all garbage, etc., is removed immediately after slaughter.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

During the year special attention has been given to this important and essential branch of public health work, and a great amount of time devoted to the inspection and examination of meat carcasses and other foods.

The private slaughter-houses have been visited at all times when slaughtering was in progress, and the retail meat shops, other food stores and food preparing premises have been regularly visited and supervised.

During the year 478 visits have been made to this class of premises for the purpose of ante-mortem and post-mortem examination and inspection of the carcasses and offals of animals slaughtered for human consumption, and also fish, rabbits and poultry and other foods.

During these visits the carcasses and offals of 446 Beasts, 1318 Sheep, 1511 Pigs and 7 Calves have been examined.

It was not found necessary to make any seizures of diseased or unsound food during the year, but the following found to be diseased, or unsound and unfit for human consumption were, upon the conditions being pointed out to the owners at the time of inspection and slaughter, surrendered to me and destroyed.

The carcasses with all organs of 3 Beasts, 2 Pigs and fore-quarters of Pig and 3 Calves, total weight 2862 lbs. edible Offals 1318 lbs. Summary of weights of meat and offals surrendered :—

Beef	...	...	2342 lbs.
Mutton	...	...	112 lbs.
Pork	...	...	288 lbs.
Veal	...	...	120 lbs.
Beef Offals	...	...	1180 lbs.
Pork Offals	...	...	138 lbs.

4180 lbs.

1 Ton 17 cwt. 36 lbs.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle (ex- cluding Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ...	147	299	7	1318	1511
Number inspected	147	299	7	1318	1511
All diseases except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcasses					
condemned	0	0	0	0	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	8	42	0	2	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	5.4	14	0	.15	.46
Tuberculosis only:—					
Whole carcasses					
condemned	0	3	0	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	5	53	0	0	8
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	3.4	18.7	0	0	.52

Practically the whole of the visits and inspections carried out at the slaughter-houses were made during the actual process of slaughter, thereby enabling a thorough examination to be made of the carcasses and all organs, etc., as removed in the course of dressing.

Taken generally the cattle, etc., brought in for slaughter are of a good class, and at no time has any difficulty been experienced in carrying out the duties of inspection, the butchers and slaughtermen have at all times readily afforded me any assistance required.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, Etc.

The Milk supply of the district is all produced locally either in the Urban area or in the adjoining Rural district, none whatever being brought in by rail.

The supply has been plentiful, of good quality and no shortage whatever has been experienced.

No. of persons registered as Cowkeepers	...	8
No. of registered Cowsheds	... ..	14
No. of "Accredited" producers	... ..	1
No. of Registered Retail Purveyors	... ..	25
No. of Retail Purveyors of "Pasteurised" Milk		2

During the year 68 inspections have been made of premises of the registered cowkeepers and purveyors of Milk. The cleanliness and general sanitary conditions of the premises and utensils were found to be satisfactory.

In addition to the above visits the whole of the Dairy Cattle on the registered producers' premises in the district have been visited and examined by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries Inspector on one occasion during the year.

6 bulk samples of Milk were taken by me and submitted for biological examination, the result of the examination in 5 cases being negative and one case positive (T.B.).

Informal samples of milk have been taken during the year from the retail purveyors during delivery and tested for dirt content, with good result.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

20 Samples, 12 of Milk and 8 of other Foods, have been purchased in the district during the year by the County Inspector and submitted for analysis under the Sale of Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928. All the samples were certified to be genuine except 2 samples of Milk, which were certified to be deficient in fat. The vendors in these cases were cautioned.

FISH FRYING.

Fish Frying is a scheduled offensive trade in the Urban District.

There are 13 businesses of this class established in the district. All the shops are fitted with the standard modern type cooking ranges, and have accommodation separate from the shops for the storage of fish and potatoes and the preparation of the same.

All fish is delivered from the merchants headless and filleted, thus reducing any likelihood of nuisance from fish offals, etc., to a minimum. All the premises have been kept under supervision, and on the whole the businesses are well conducted, the cleanliness of the premises and equipment being maintained up to a good standard, while the commodities used have always been found to be of a good quality. No complaints have been received at any time respecting this class of premises.

ICE CREAM VENDORS.

We have approximately 15 premises in the district where Ice Cream is manufactured and sold by retail. All the premises were kept under supervision during the Season the commodity is in demand.

No cause for complaint could be found with the conditions under which the preparation, manufacture and sale was carried out.

URBAN DISTRICT OF HORBURY.

Report for the year 1938 on the administration of Part X, of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to Canal Boats.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Gentlemen,

In accordance with the provisions of Part X of the Public Health Act, 1936, it is the duty of every Local Authority within whose district any part of a canal is situate to carry into effect the provisions of Part X of the above Act, and the Regulations made thereunder, and I herewith submit my report upon the administration of the said Act and Regulations for the year 1938.

Although Horbury is a Registration Authority, there is no Canal Boat registered in the Urban District, the part of the Canal passing through the district being only a few hundred yards, and situate at the extreme boundary of our area.

Periodical visits have been made to the canal banks during 1938, but on no occasion was it possible to board any boat passing through, the only boats met with being Day Boats, i.e. boats that are not used as dwellings, which carry cargoes of coal, etc., short distances only.

With the present-day quick road transport facilities and the closing down of factories and works adjacent to the canal, the number of boats passing through our district has been greatly diminished.

Inspection is a difficult matter as the boats do not stop on our portion of the canal for the discharge of cargoes or other purposes.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN H. HORSFALL,

Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,
Town Hall, Horbury.

31st March, 1939.



SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

13 observations of factory chimneys, each 30 minutes duration, have been taken during the year and in 4 cases excessive black smoke was emitted in contravention of the bye-laws in force in the district, and written cautions were sent to the offenders. Numerous informal observations of shorter duration have been taken also, but in none of these cases were there excessive emissions.

HOUSING INSPECTION.

43 dwelling houses have been inspected during the year 1938, and dealt with under the Housing Act, 1936, and the Housing Consolidated Regulations, and duly recorded in the Housing Inspection Files Register.

13 of the dwellings inspected were found to be in such a state as to be unfit for human habitation, and not capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable cost. Representation was made in each case, and demolition orders served upon the owners with respect to same.

In 30 cases dilapidations and defects of such a nature were found to be existing, as to render the dwellings not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation, and notices were served upon the respective owners, to execute such works set out in specifications attached, as was considered necessary to bring the dwellings up to a reasonable standard of fitness.

During 1938 18 dwellings against which Demolition Orders were operative have been vacated and demolished.

The following are particulars of dwellings against which Demolition Orders were outstanding at the end of 1938 :—

No. of Houses	Position	Result of Action taken.
16	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19 and 21 Club Houses, 30 and 32 Highfield Road.	All vacated.
6	20, 22, 24, 30, 32, 34 Ranter Fold.	All vacated.
1	42 New Street.	Vacant.
3	40, 42 High Street and 7 Stringers Yard.	All vacated.
4	2, 4, 6, 12 School Yard.	All vacated.
2	55 and 57 Cluntergate.	Both vacant.
1	11 Church Street.	Vacant.
1	17 Church Street.	Vacant.
6	2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 Ring-o'-Bells Yard.	All vacated.
1	68 Millfield Road.	Vacant.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON HOUSING CONDITIONS.

The standard of housing in the district taken on the whole is generally good, and the amount of overcrowding is not great.

The cases of overcrowding existing at the end of the year were 12. These cases will be steadily diminished by re-allocation during 1939.

During the latter part of 1938 work was commenced upon the erection of 96 houses (24 two-bedroom type and 72 three-bedroom type) upon the site purchased by the Council in Dudfleet Lane, and at the end of the year 18 houses had been completed and occupied. Work in connection with the remaining 58 houses is being pushed on with, and should be completed and occupied by the middle of 1939.

The principal types of houses in the district are those of parlour, living room and three bedrooms, and living room, scullery with two or three bedrooms. All houses of recent construction are provided with baths and hot and cold water services.

The situation and layout of much of the older property in the district, as regards the carrying out of improvements and alterations etc., is such that it is more practical to deal with houses individually rather than in areas.

It has not been necessary to recourse to legal procedure during the year with respect to notices served under the Housing Acts.

Work in connection with the house-to-house inspection of dwellings under the Housing Act, will steadily continue during the coming year, in order to comply with the plan of the Minister of Health.

The following is a summary of alterations and repairs carried out to 13 dwellings, reconditioned under the Housing Act during 1938, to which a large amount of time has been devoted in the supervision of the various works, and in interviewing owners, contractors, etc.

Dilapidations to external walls of dwellings made good by cement rough-cast or seam pointing	...	...	...	12
Dampness excluded from walls	...	...	...	12
Through ventilation provided to living and sleeping rooms				45
Additional window light provided to living and sleeping rooms and staircases	...	...	...	44
New Food Pantries provided	...	...	...	5
Light and ventilation provided to existing Food pantries	...			8
Ceilings underdrawn in plaster	...	...	...	4
Internal walls and ceilings re-plastered	...	...	...	17
Dilapidated floors re-laid or made good	...	...	...	29
Skirting Boards fixed at foot of internal walls	...	...		5
New slop sinks provided	...	...	...	4
Sink waste pipes trapped off	...	...	...	5
House Roofs re-slatted or repaired	...	...	...	7
Chimney Stacks flashed with lead	...	...	...	12
Window frames and sashes in living rooms, staircases and sleeping rooms, renewed or repaired and made to open				27

Defective and dangerous stairs made safe	...	...	...	3
Eaves Gutters and down spouts repaired or renewed	...	...	...	12
General and minor repairs	...	...	...	16
Cellars provided with adequate light and ventilation	...	...	...	5
Yards and footpaths paved	...	...	...	10
Baths, with hot and cold water provided	...	...	...	3
Inside Water Closet provided	...	...	...	3

PETROLEUM ACTS.

26 premises in the Urban District are licensed for the sale and storage of Petroleum Spirit, etc., in accordance with the provisions of the Petroleum Consolidation Act, 1928, viz., 24 for the sale and storage of spirit and 2 for the storage of Petroleum Mixture (Cellulose Paint).

22 of the licensed premises store the spirit in underground steel tanks fitted with standard pumps, while on the remaining premises the spirit and mixtures are kept in steel drums stored in specially constructed fire-proof above ground stores.

All the licensed premises have been regularly visited and inspected during the year, and no contravention of the regulations or conditions specified on the licences have been observed.

The total quantity of Petroleum Spirit and Mixtures licensed to be stored is 18,050 gallons.

RAG FLOCKS ACTS.

There are two factories in the district where small quantities of Rag Flock are manufactured, little of this material is used locally. Both the factories have been periodically visited during the year and examination made of the flocks manufactured. No samples were however submitted for analysis.

DISINFECTION and DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES.

The disinfection of premises after all cases of Infectious Disease is carried out immediately after the removal of patients to hospital or after recovery, the method used being formaldehyde vapour and spraying. Premises are also fumigated after other diseases and causes upon written request being made.

Arrangements are also made for the disinfection of verminous premises with Hydrogen Cyanide Gas, upon written requests being received from owners and occupiers, who are charged with the cost of carrying out the disinfection.

Number of houses or parts disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Number of houses disinfected after Deaths from other diseases and causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Number of Verminous houses disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Where cases of Infectious Disease are notified the dwellings of the patients are inspected, the sanitary conditions ascertained, defects and nuisances (if any) noted and steps taken to have the same remedied.

In conclusion I wish to express my thanks and appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their kind consideration of matters referred to them, and to the Medical Officer of Health and other Officials for their ready assistance and co-operation during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN H. HORSFALL,
Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,
Town Hall, Horbury.

20th April, 1939.



HORBURY :

J. W. WILSON & SON · THE CROWN PRESS · CHURCH STREET
